

Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIE-00 L-03 NASA-01 PA-01 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3710

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 1498

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - P A R A N B R S I X

.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: USINJC, IN, US

SUBJECT: INDO-US JOINT SUBCOMMISSION ON S&T: SUMMARY REPORT
OF MEETING HELD JANUARY 27-29, 1976, NEW DELHI

REF: DELHI 1434.

1. THE MEETING WAS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL. THE DELEGATION WAS GIVEN THE RED CARPET TREATMENT BY INDIAN SCIENCE OFFICIALS UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF DR. B.D. NAG CHAUDHURI. THE US LEADER, DR. OSWALD GANLEY, DID AN OUTSTANDING NEGOTIATING JOB, AS WELL AS GUIDING THE MEETING AND PRESENTING THE US POSITION.

2. THE WORKING GROUPS MET FOR TWO DAYS OF INTENSIVE PROJECT REVIEW AT VARIOUS RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS IN DELHI AND IDENTIFIED APPROXIMATELY THIRTY PROGRAM AREAS FOR COOPERATION. IN ADDITION, IT WAS AGREED THAT THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (NAS) AND THE INDIAN NATIONAL SCIENCE ACADEMY (INSA) WOULD PROMOTE JOINT CONFERENCES AND EXCHANGE OF SCIENTISTS AND INFORMATION. OTHER AREAS OF DISCUSSION OUTSIDE OF THE WORKING GROUPS INVOLVED RADIO ASTRONOMY AND THE NASA LANDSAT
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PROGRAM. THE SUBCOMMISSION URGED THE AGENCIES AND INSTITU-

TIONS ON BOTH SIDES "TO PROCEED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT AND FINALIZATION OF SPECIFIC PLANS AND PROJECTS APPROPRIATE TO THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO EACH SIDE AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS OF EACH GOVERNMENT" BUT MADE NO RPT NO COMMITMENTS TO SPECIFIC PROJECTS.

3. THE FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SUBCOMMISSION PREPARED BY OES WERE TABLED AND ADOPTED BY THE SUBCOMMISSION WITH ONLY MINOR CHANGES AND INCORPORATED IN THE AGREED MINUTES. IN EFFECT, THE SUBCOMMISSION WILL NOW HAVE PURVIEW OVER ALL NEW AND ONGOING PROGRAMS AND PROVIDE A BILATERAL UMBRELLA FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL SCIENCE COOPERATION. THE DELICATE ISSUE OF ONGOING JOINT PROJECTS WAS DISCUSSED IN GREAT DETAIL AND THE FOLLOWING TEXT WAS AGREED ON AND INCORPORATED IN THE MINUTES. " THE SUBCOMMISSION NOTED THAT ONGOING PROJECTS HAVE THE SUPPORT OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS AND MEET THE CRITERIA ESTABLISHED AT THE OCTOBER 1975 JOINT COMMISSION MEETING." WE FEEL THIS WAS AS FAR AS THE INDIANS COULD GO AT THIS TIME, IN FACT, MUCH FURTHER THAN WE EXPECTED.

4. THE GOI, IN A LETTER TO THE AMBASSADOR DATED JANUARY 28, 1976, HAS CLEARED 124 ONGOING JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS OF THE 185 SUBMITTED TO THEM BY THE EMBASSY LAST NOVEMBER. THE REMAINING 61 PROJECTS ARE STILL UNDER REVIEW. THE GOI IS FINDING IT DIFFICULT TO LOCATE THESE PROJECTS TO MAKE A REVIEW, BUT HAVE SO FAR CLEARED ALL OF WHICH THEY HAVE COPIES. WE ARE WORKING WITH THEM NOW TO LOCATE THE REMAINING PROJECTS FOR AN EXPEDITIOUS REVIEW.

5. DR. GANLEY STRONGLY INDICATED, BOTH IN THE PLENARY SESSION AND IN PRIVATE TO DR. NAG CHADHURI, THAT THE US COULD NOT INITIATE ANY NEW PROJECTS UNTIL THE GOI HAD COMPLETED EXAMINATION OF ONGOING PROJECTS. THE INDIANS READILY AGREED TO THIS.

6. IN A SEPARATE MEETING BETWEEN THE SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF HEALTH, GIAN PRAKASH, AND DR. JAMES KING, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL HEALTH, DHEW, DR. KING ASKED THE SECRETARY THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE MOSQUITO GENETICS PROJECT AND WHAT, IF ANYTHING, THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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DOING IN RELATION TO A REFUTATION OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE REPORT. THE SECRETARY REPLIED VIGOROUSLY THAT THE HEALTH MINISTER, KARAN SINGH, HAD DEFENDED THE PROJECT BOTH TO THE PARLIAMENT AND TO THE PRESS IN THE BEGINNING, AND THAT THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, AFTER THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE REPORT WAS RELEASED LAST APRIL, HAD ANSWERED EACH POINT MADE IN THE REPORT AND REFUTED THE UNTRUE STATEMENTS. HE INDICATED THAT "WE MUST CONSIDER THE STATE

OF AFFAIRS AT THAT TIME AND THAT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE WAS A COMMUNIST LEADER." HE SAID THE MOH DOCUMENT WAS STILL CLASSIFIED AND WITH THE PARLIAMENT. HE STATED, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAS NO DOUBT THAT IT WILL BECOME PUBLIC IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE AND THAT THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH HAD INDICATED STRONGLY THAT THEY DESIRE CONTINUED COLLABORATION WITH THE UNITED STATES AND, PARTICULARLY, DHEW IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH SCIENCES. HE WAS HIGHLY PLEASED WITH THE OUTCOME OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMISSION MEETING AND CERTAINLY LOOKED FORWARD TO EXPANDED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO AGENCIES.

7. THE COMPLETED MINUTES ARE BEING SENT TO WASHINGTON BY DR. JAMES KING WHO WILL HAVE THEM DELIVERED TO KR. DRATZER ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2. THE MINUTES ARE ALSO BEING POUCHED OODAY.
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